

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVII

August 2006

Number 8



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting:

August 10, 2006 7:00 pm

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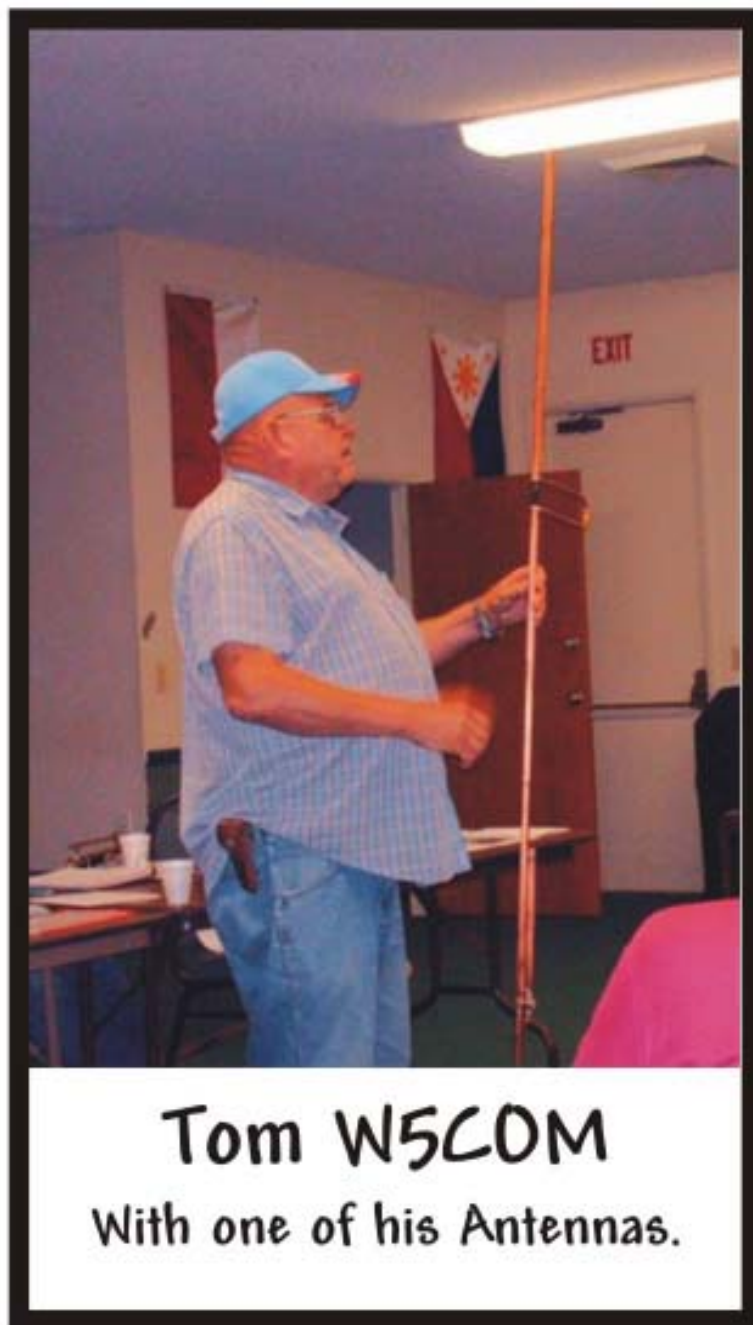
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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022  
The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:  
WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post  
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021  
The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>



August meeting is on CERT

## 2006 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928
Secretary	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Treasurer	KF6WXA	Susan Kochel	445-6067
Past President	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

## 2006 Board of Directors

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## 2006 Standing Committee

Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
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WAMO	W6LKK	Erich Bennett	401-7332
Web Master(s)	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
	AI6O	Ed Felter	668-0928

## Staff and Writers:

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
AI6O	ED	Vice President
N6OPH	Mike	Meeting minutes
	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
W6LKK	Erich	WAMO Report
W5COM	Tom	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	The A.R.E.S Connection
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos



## Registration

2006 ARRL Southwestern Convention  
At the web site [www.sandarc-conv2006.org](http://www.sandarc-conv2006.org)

## From The President

**Paul KC6QLS**



I would like to thank Ed for thinking outside the box, and coming up with a great idea of the WAMO/D (digital) PSK 31 net. It is ideas like this that will keep the club moving forward in a positive direction. I checked in on the first net and had a lot of fun. When I'm not at a meeting for SANDARC, Convention or some other functions, I plan to be at the keyboard and radio checking in on the PSK 31 net.

We have an opportunity as a club to help out at the Convention. They need help with the radio room. They need people to set up the radios, antennas and make sure everything works. They also are looking for Control Operators to watch over the equipment and make sure that everything runs smooth. They have some nice radios in the works for the radio room like the new IC-7000 and the IC-7800. They even have a YAESU FTDX-9000 planning to be there. I hope that you can help out with this and let the San Diego Ham Community know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is a group that will step up to the plate and hit the home run.

**Paul KC6QLS**  
**President ARCEC**

\*\*\*\*\*

## SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
**GATES OPEN 6:30 AM**

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
13 July 2006



The general membership meeting of the ARCEC was called to order by club president Paul Rios, KC6QLS at 7:11 p.m. President appointed Ann, KC6TBG to take Minutes as the Secretary is presently attending the VEC Conference.

**SECRETARY'S:** Report was approved by the general membership.

**TREASURER'S:** Report was given by Susan, KF6WXA. It was approved as read and filed for audit.

**President:** Rios announced that the silent auction prize would be two passes for admission to Sea World valued at \$103. The opening bid would be \$30.

**Vice President:** Ed, AI6O introduced this evenings topic. The topic is a Field Day video and report. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all the volunteers who put on our Field Day event. ARCEC presented Certificates of Appreciation to Art Leveille W3ALL, Mike Maston N6OPH, and Skip Cline KD6RFQ for their efforts at the Del Mar/San Diego County Fair. SANDARC Delegate Larry AE6AV accepted the Certificates of Appreciation for Mike Maston N6OPH and Skip Cline KD6RFQ, and he will present the certificates to them at the next SANDARC meeting. After the break, the meeting continued.

Tom W5COM shared three antennas he made: a 6m loop; a 6 element 440 MHz Yagi designed by N6IEF; and a 220 Co-liner J-Pole.

**EDUCATION Chairman:** Mike, N6OPH is attending the VEC conference tonight. However, general and extra classes are coming up and information is posted on the website and will also be in the Counterpoise.

**SANDARC:** Report was given by Larry AE6AV. He reported that the Secretary resigned due to personal reasons and new secretary KC6TBG was appointed. The Tech Books are in and will be distributed to the libraries within San Diego County. Steve Early AD6VI is the new trustee of SANDARC's call W6SLF. Del Mar fair went well. Convention sales are going well and be sure to use the room code when you book a room. VEC has a new Tech question pool in effect July 1, 2006.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** was given by Paul, KC6QLS. He stated that the picnic date has been changed to August 19, 2006. The winner of the silent auction tonight was Ann, KC6TBG. The Mother Goose Parade is coming up and volunteers are still needed. Fire Station #6 Open House is October 7, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to around 3:00 p.m. and volunteers are still needed. The convention radio station still needs volunteers.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Ed, AI6O reported on a new ARCEC PSK 31Net to be held Thursday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on 6 meters 50.290 MHz, the National Calling Frequency for PSK or alternatively on 2 meters 144.144 MHz. The purpose of the net will be the same as the WAMO net, but it will be on PSK/digital only. Participants of this net can earn a WAMO/D (digital) certificate for contacts made. The first net will be July 17, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.

**MEMBERSHIP Chair:** Ann, KC6TBG reported that there are 33 members and 4 visitors with a total paid membership of 210.

**NET MANAGER:** Mike KG6TDP reported the nets are going well and report is on the reflector.

**SOCIAL CHAIRMAN:** Xemi reported that he is working on the menu for the picnic on August 19, 2006 at La Mesita Park in La Mesa.

**WAMO CHAIRMAN:** Eric W6CCM reported he is looking forward to the new WAMO/D PSK 31Net.

There being no further business before the general membership the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Rios, KC6TBG for  
Michael P. Maston, N6OPH  
Secretary  
Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

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AI6O

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## From The Vice President AI6O ED



A bill to enhance emergency communication at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) includes Amateur Radio operators as part of an overall effort to provide interoperability among responders. Just this past week, the 21st Century Emergency Communications Act of 2006 (HR 5852), an amendment to the Homeland Security Act of 2002, passed the US House this week on a 414-2 vote and has gone to the Senate. Its sponsor, Rep David G. Reichert (R-WA) — who chairs the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Science and Technology — says his legislation is designed "to improve the ability of emergency responders to communicate with each other" — interoperability.

His measure also would require the DHS to strengthen its efforts to improve emergency communications. HR 5852 calls for Amateur Radio operators to be part of a "Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group" (RECC Working Group) that would be attached to each regional Department of Homeland Security office. The RECC Working Groups would advise federal and state homeland security officials.

It is timely that Stacy Magoffin, KG6VTL, Mountain Empire Bioterrorism and Disaster Defense Team Chair and Craig Williams, W6CAW, Public Affairs Officer for Campo Fire and Rescue and S.D. RACES FEMA/CERT Trainer will present our program for August. Don't miss it!

Straight ahead!

Ed, AI6O



### WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Ed Felter	AI6O	WAMO/D

#### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:

8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

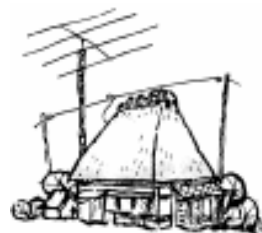
WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 146.475 (147.420) 107.2 PL

RX 224.480 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.



#### New WAMO/D Net

ARCEC, San Diego Digital VHF Net

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Day: Thurs. "Except 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs. of the month"

Mode: PSK31

Frequency: 50.290 MHz. and a QSY to 144.144 MHz

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken. Hope to see you on the waterfall!

WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

## Calendar of Events


### August 2006

Aug.	1:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Aug.	5:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Aug.	5:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Aug.	10:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Aug.	12:	ARES Meeting, 8:00 am
Aug.	17:	Float Meeting "222 W. Madison Ave"
Aug.	19:	Annual ARCEC Picnic
Aug.	19:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Aug.	19:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Aug.	19:	Counterpoise Dead Line

### Upcoming Event Dates

Sept.	22:	SW Convention 2006 Opens
Oct.	7:	Open House EL Fire Station 6
Nov.	9:	Home Brew Contest
Nov.	19:	Mother Goose Parade
Dec.	14:	Electons 2007 Officers
Dec.	??:	Radio Clause
Dec.	18:	ARCEC Christmas Dinner "Hometown"

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(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
New Address:  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:  
A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

### ARCEC Membership Application

1. Amateur Call Sign	2. Class of License
3. First Name	4. Last Name
5. Street Address	6. City, State, Zip+4
7. Home Phone	8. Work Phone
May we list: Y N	
9. DOB	10. e-mail
11. ARRL Member Yes no	12. ARES Member Yes No
13. RACES Member Yes No	14. Sponsored by: or Family Member

Return this form with check made payable to the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon or ARCEC for new or renewal membership. Annual Dues \$18.00 for Individual, \$30.00 for family. New members add \$5.00 per member. Include your call on Check. Mail to  
Membership Chairperson  
A.R.C.E.C, P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

New ( ) or Renewal ( )	WAMO Number
Certificate Issued	Dues from _____ To _____
Paid Cash ( )	Check No.
Check ( )	Date Paid:

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthdays August

August 1	KG6IDE	George	Gross
August 3	KC6YSO	David	Doan
August 4	WA6MHZ	Pat	Bunsold
August 4	KK6NF	Mike	Bailey
August 10	N6SZO	Joe	Corones
August 11	KK6NH	Leslie	Day
August 12	N6HHU	Phillip	Fish
August 12	KD6HVZ	Jim	Green
August 12	KG6KVF	Elaine	Gerbrand
August 14	K6ICT	Ken	Harvey
August 14	KG6JCW	Stogie	Panger
August 17	KF6YB	Oscar	Quintanilla
August 17	N6EVE	Evelyn	Miller
August 18	N6WUQ	Jim	Rogers, Sr.
August 19	N6YJO	Chuck	Behnke
August 19	KD6VKZ	Ed	Ebbert
August 22	N6DVJ	Johnny	Hart
August 23	KC6NXZ	Tom	Caudle
August 23	KF6UOZ	Craig	Matheny
August 24	KE6BZD	Ron	Mahoney
August 25	KO6AB	Jerry	Miller, Jr.
August 26	KM6YF	Tom	Borg

## Word Search "CERT"

C Q H C E W F J H V D W B O H  
O P R E P A R E D N O S S R W  
M K R I E Q U O F S D M G K  
M F V T Z D L Q W K S R I A Q  
U E W I W S I J E M A E T N F  
N M V E F V E B D O F C C I U  
I E D B O U F W L T T E S I Z E  
T R A I N I N G Q W T U V E V  
Y G N W D J K E B S Y E X Q Z  
W E G S H Z W O F D W Q W J R  
T N E V A L U A T I O N S I A  
C C R F B T H Y Z S E T D O D  
E Y H I E C I T C A R P Q U I  
T W K D F B L K A S P S E B O  
O R H D V O L U N T E E R S J I  
P Q E S N O P S E R H K V H F

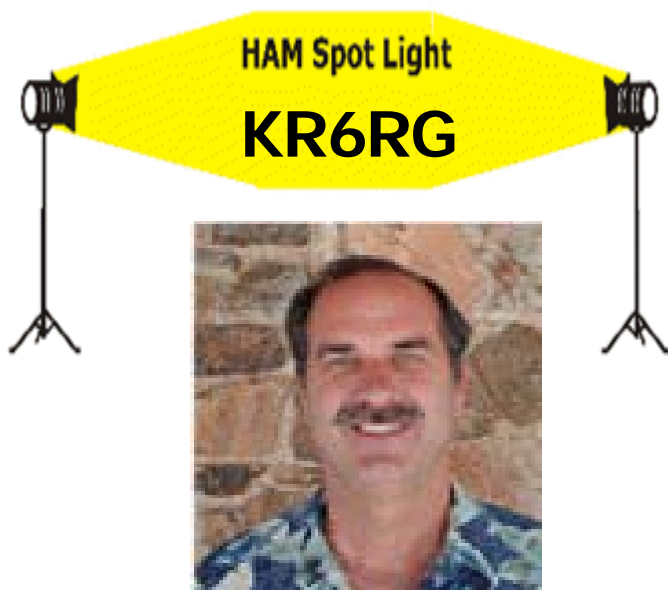
- |                                      |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AID         | <input type="checkbox"/> PREPAREDNESS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CERT        | <input type="checkbox"/> PROTECT      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY   | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIOS       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DANGER      | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIEF       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISASTER    | <input type="checkbox"/> RESCUE       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY   | <input type="checkbox"/> RESPONSE     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EVALUATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> SAFETY       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HELP        | <input type="checkbox"/> TEAM         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZE    | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAINING     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRACTICE    | <input type="checkbox"/> VICTIMS      |
| <b>BONUS Word</b>                    | <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEERS   |

## Jokes " Some More MEDICAL DICTIONARY "

Room	Place to do upholstery
Rectum	Nearly killed him
Secretion	Hiding something
Seizure	Roman emperor
Tablet	A small table
Terminal Illness	Getting sick at the airport
Tumour	One plus one more
Urine	Opposite of you're out
Tom W5COM	

## Last Months Word Search

I U W X K C Y I W J U P D P U  
K I T R C O P S X K W Y A K  
X R D R T C O N C R E S S R W  
C I K E C O L O N I E S E L J  
I S R B F W W H C N I N C S  
S C E J E R U R Y P C M A F  
R J F L W R N P K A W K A M X  
D S E A G O B D C B S H E C  
C E D I X U T K N D L H C M Z  
J A U N R V A D F R C J S W V  
W G R U K S X W O P W E L U R  
F E A W Z I A H I X A H I D H  
X E P X D V F E W Z U C A J  
S E V A D I L O H V Q L S  
P D E C L A P A T I O N F Z Y  
U W Z F Y W A R X U T S R I F



Roy Gallagher, KR6RG, WAMO # 1045, comes from a family of Hams. He has an Advanced license and found the code a "mountain to climb". He favors 20 meters sideband and has a station set up at home and HF in the truck. His wife, also known as his "better half," is also an Extra. They both enjoy Ham Radio as a hobby and work with RACES.

Roy spent four years in the United States Air force as a Dog Handler and spent a year as an Air Force handler in Southeast Asia. He currently works for the U.S. Customs Service and has since 1975. He is looking forward to retiring soon after 35 years. Roy works as a Narcotic Detector Dog Handler and is the Communications Point of Contact for U.S. Customs, coordinating communications with various law enforcement agencies. He has a daughter, age 30, and five grandchildren. His son-in-law is in the Navy. They are currently stationed in San Diego, CA.

For 16 years, Roy has been involved as an Amateur Radio operator and can be found working the various Maritime nets. He has contacted the Coast Guard many times to assist vessels in distress. He has coordinated a fuel and bilge pump drop by a Coast Guard C 130, to a sail boat located between Hawaii and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

He directed a Coast Guard helicopter to another vessel taking on water off of Molokai Hawaii. He enjoys radio and the club and reminds others that it is a hobby that has its many benefits. It is not only limited to radios, but television and computers as well, and provides the connection to the world.

No longer just a voice on the radio, the spotlight shines on KR6RG.

73!

Tassy Rios

## MAZE



Look real close you can see the "T"



The Editor's  
Corner  
KC6QLS Paul



Editor's Corner:

Please keep in mind that we now have a new e-mail address for the Counterpoise, [WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net](mailto:WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net). In the subject box, please place your subject so I can filter the mail. This has been working out great.

From time to time I do get some letters to the Editor that I would like to publish. I do read all your e-mails and if you wish for me to place them in the newsletter, please state your wishes.

Editor  
Paul KC6QLS

Public Relations

As the Public Relations Chair for the El Cajon Club and many other organizations, I have been working for the last four months on a new web site. The web site is designed for all clubs, organizations and people in the Amateur Radio community. It will have a speaker pool, how to upgrade, where a class is and which club is close to them to join. My intent is to help inform all clubs and individual hams what other clubs are doing and what functions are coming up in the San Diego area.

So look for the url in the upcoming month. I hope to go live with it soon. If you are in a club or organization that would like to have a monthly report, please contact me by e-mail at [kc6qls@cox.net](mailto:kc6qls@cox.net).

We have the Annual Picnic coming up this month on the 19<sup>th</sup>; I hope to see you there. Next month is the Convention; the rooms are going fast so if you would like to stay at the convention you might like to book a room now. Please visit the convention web site for more information <http://www.sandarc-conv2006.org/>. We soon will start up our Annual Mother Goose Parade Float Committee. This year's theme is "Celebrating 60 Magical Years with Mother Goose". Please volunteer as it is a lot of fun!

Paul KC6QLS

# Volunteers Needed

Open House EL Fire Station 6  
Mother Goose Parade  
Radio Clause  
Please Sign up at the next meeting

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## NEW E-Mail

Address for the Counterpoise. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:  
[WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net](mailto:WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net)

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## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. To Help, contact WA6PPG Carl Ferree at 328-2694 e-mail at [cferree@IEEE.ORG](mailto:cferree@IEEE.ORG)

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## Things to keep in mind

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

---

## Quote of the Month

"Rose among thorns."

- Ammianus Marcellinus, *History bk XVI ch. 17*

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Convention Sept. 22 – 24 2006

**Banquet Speaker:** Gordon West, WB6NOA

**Lunch Speaker:** Bob Heil, K9EID

**DX Breakfast:** Bob Grimmick, N6OX "Peter 1 Island"

**Speaker Forums** start Friday at 3 pm

A sample list of some of the Forum speakers: Monica Zech, Roxanne Provaznik, Ned Stearns, Carl Gardenenias, Harry Hodges.

Please visit the web site for more information and how to book a room. Please tell them that you are booking a room for Ham Show 06 use ASDASDA for the Group Code. Room Rate is \$119.00 a night for up to 4 persons per room. The web site address is <http://www.sandarc-conv2006.org/>



# Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



## The INCREDIBLE cQ-CENder

Surfing around Ebay, I came across an unusual item. It was a 6 meter AM transceiver, possibly homebuilt, but too professional looking. The dial and front panel were silk screened. No home brewer can do that! And the tube numbers were stamped on the chassis, along with a serial number! Home brewers don't put serial numbers on their radios!! This wasn't something even a great homebrewed could whip up in his shop. Very very mysterious indeed! I sniped it in the last couple seconds and won it for \$29. It would turn out to be one of the rarest radios I have ever acquired!

The radio came in and was exquisitely made, but it's origin was still a unknown! No trace of it in QST or CQ; and no schematic of it anywhere! Where did it come from?? The name was especially curious, so I did a Google search for the 4 letters highlighted "QCEN". YES!!! It turns out that stands for Queen City Emergency Net, a major Ham Club in Cincinnati, Ohio.

I emailed the website and several members responded. Bob Johnston K4DMG gave me a call when he found out a cQCENder still existed, and we chatted at great length about its history. Also in contact was QCEN Past President and former ARRL Section Manager (then Section Communications Manager) Hank Greeb N8XX. They led me to Harold.

The cQ-CENder was a club project in 1958 and masterfully designed by Harold Blocher W4YWH. Harold had showed the club members a Gonset Communicator for 6, but it was very pricey. He knew he could design one for the club a lot cheaper! Harold worked with Engineers at the local Crosley-Avco Electronics plant to get it ready for production. Most of the parts came from local surplus store MYTRONICS, owned by member Don Meyers W8CNV (SK). The panel and dial were expertly silk-screened, and the chassis's and panels prepared by John Gantt W8IJU (SK). Club members bought the kits for \$50 and went to the factory in a group to put them together. They were tested in the plant by engineer Paul Luhn W8MXR. Only about 75 cQ-CENders were ever made!

QCEN had 6 meter nets using the cQ-CENder. It was a great success, but as time marched on, most of them disappeared. 3 other radios are known to exist. Harold has all 3 and put one on the air at the clubs 50th anniversary party in 1991.

QCEN was formed after a great Flood wiped out much of Cincinnati and Hams came to the rescue providing Emergency Communications. They were officially chartered in 1941. As WW2 began, QCEN was very active in the W.E.R.S. and affiliated with the Red Cross for communications. When another great flood came along in 1964, QCEN was there again to provide the assistance. Most likely, many of the cQCENders were used at that event for emergency traffic. The club is still very active, and has 2 Ham stations: W8VVL at the Red Cross building, and W8VND at another site. They are very active in Field Day.

The cQCENder is a 6 tube radio featuring an sensitive 6BZ6 RF amp stage (.3uV sensitivity!), a Superhet/Superregen detector and 5763 Power Amplifier for about 10W. It uses a Carbon mike for great audio. This is a much improved design over the similar sized Heathkit Sixer. It has a selector for 2 crystals, and a pi network output allowing for great antenna tuning range. A neon light bulb is used to tune up the transmitter, thus requiring no metering. An external Power supply is required, allowing for Base and mobile applications. This is a very light weight and compact transceiver! About a third of the front panel is a massive speaker, allowing for superb audio. All the coils are sealed in Qdope for stability and repeatability. The workmanship is top rate. That's why I couldn't believe it was built anywhere but a professional factory. My serial number is 45822. It turns out that means it was made in the 4<sup>th</sup> month of 1958, and was the 22nd radio ever built.

This is one of the most extraordinary treasures of the Crest Radio Museum and will be on display at the 2006 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. If only clubs today could organize so well and make a wonderful radio like the cQ-CENder as QCEN did!

73 WA6MHZ



cQ-CENder Continued page 11

# Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul

## "BPL Controversy Spurs Shift in Strategy at ARRL"

Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the spring of renewal in Cycle 23 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".

During a recent press conference, the ARRL unveiled its latest attack in the battle against "Broadband over Power Lines" or "BPL" as it is known in Ham parlance.

Readers will recall BPL as the proposal which has repeatedly survived efforts by the Ham community to defeat consideration at the Federal Communications Commission. In a new move, the League today announced that recently retired ARRL President Jim Hainie KC1H will weigh in as the League's "point man" in the battle against BPL. In a surprise move, Hainie will be using a radically different strategy than past efforts by the normally staid Newington, Connecticut Ham Radio organization.

At a recent FCC public hearing, sporting traditional Caribbean folk attire, the ARRL President Emeritus was introduced as "Pappa Doc" Hainie. Hainie, resplendent in a traditional Caribbean floral print robe of greens, blues, pinks, oranges and reds, upon entering the FCC hearing, made eye contact with Atlantic Division Section Manager Chuck Roast WROAST, who was heard to comment "*Nice threads dude*" a reference to Hainie's attire. Hearing the comment, the architect of the new strategy beamed. Hainie's new appearance reveals League's willingness to take a radically different direction in the battle against BPL. This direction became clear at the hearing, following an industry presentation on field strength measurements of an existing BPL system in a San Diego, California community. Introducing a presentation on analysis of RF field strength measurements, Hainie quipped: "*Let's see what the bones say.*"

The League, frustrated with the lack of Commission response to engineering studies of BPL, has decided to abandon empirical analysis and instead will attempt to connect with the spirit world in debunking BPL data. During the hour-long hearing at FCC headquarters, Hainie utilized an Ouija board and Tarot cards to illustrate how BPL will impact the

future of Ham Radio. However, the new strategy is not without its detractors. Division among League membership has been split roughly along the same lines as the debate over the role of the International Morse Code in the incentive licensing scheme in Ham Radio.

Although appearing somewhat uncomfortable in traditional tribal attire, League staffers at the hearing were stoic in their support of Hainie and his new strategy. ARRL Technical Director Dr. Ed "Bugs" Bunny WH2ARE, sporting an attractive tribal multi-colored robe, skirt of Banana leaves, and matching headdress, seemed to hesitate at first when describing how the strategy has changed attitudes at League Headquarters in Newington. "*This is really out of the box thinking for me. As an EE major in college, I relied on electronic test instruments and advanced mathematics to diagnose and solve circuit problems. But these Tarot cards are really swell. And, we're saving money on lab equipment like oscilloscopes, signal generators and instrument leads.*"

While Hainie's strategy has been controversial, the small-town, Texas lawyer has a proven track record in Ham Radio PR successes. Known for his folksy, "aw shucks" persona, Hainie first set the tone in the battle against BPL with comments at an FCC hearing, which have become lore at League headquarters. Listening to a withering scientific presentation positioning BPL as the solution to the nation's need for access to the internet, Hainie was over heard remarking to FCC commissioners "*Your cat can have kittens in the oven, but that don't make 'em biscuits.*"

Hainie's remark temporarily turned the tide against BPL at the FCC and resonated with rank-and-file Hams, sparking a Ham Radio TV publicity campaign referred to by League staffers as "*The Biscuits Campaign*". The campaign's TV ads featured a smiling Hainie, holding trays of fresh biscuits while pitching the Ham Radio hobby to an aging baby-boom target audience with "above average" waistlines.

Today, the League continues to ask Hams to consider making a voluntary contribution to the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies. Hainie has personally appealed to the rank and file of Ham Radio asking them to contribute to the "*The Fund*" and express their concern over BPL and the future of the hobby to their elected officials. In doing so, Hams are encouraged to speak plainly, stick to the facts, and dress casually.

## Chicken Noodle Soup Continued

*Editor's note: the ARRL remains concerned over the impact of BPL, predicting it will make Ham bands inhospitable and interfere with Amateur Radios emergency communications capabilities. Your support as an ARRL member is important, but membership dues alone will not fund everything for protection, promotion and advancement of the Amateur Radio Service. If you have not done so before, please consider making a voluntary contribution to the Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies. If you have contributed in the past, please renew your support.*

*"Morris Code AZ6CW"*



**cQ-CENder Back**



**cQ-CENder Bottom**

## Testing and Classes

### VEC Testing Sites

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 10:00 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 9:00 am Salvation Army 643 Third Ave Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 10:00 am Escondido Chamber of Commerce 720 north Broadway Escondido

To make advance reservations or to find out more info from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)

### Club Attire

\*\*\*\*\* Shirts on hand. Call for Sizes \*\*\*\*\*

Get your jackets, hats and t-shirts.

Show off your club colors and let all know that the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon is strong and growing.

Contact: K6PKS Paul Schmidt (619) 733-2284

### General Class License Theory Course

Instructor: Gordon Shackelford AE6QW

Location: 222 W. Madison Avenue, El Cajon

Time: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Text: ARRL's General: Q & A,  
2nd Edition

Sessions: 1 – 6 on Tuesday:

8/15/06; 8/22/06; 8/29/06; 9/12/06;  
9/19/06; 9/26/06

To enroll Contact: Mike Maston, N6OPH  
Education Chairman  
(619) 296-9067

## The A.R.E.S Connection

From Rich, N6NKJ



Hello to all,

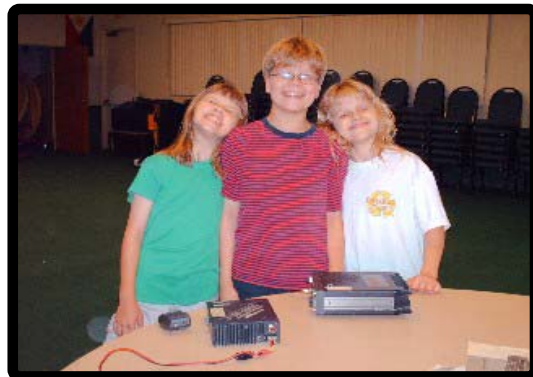
I want to first thank all of those who have helped out with the Special Olympics and the Red Flag patrols. You, the amateur radio operators, have once again restored my faith in people volunteering for public service events. In both cases, we had more people than we needed, but rather than tell them "we do not have a place for you," we doubled up some sites/routes, and it worked out very well.

So again, THANK YOU FOR THE HELP YOU GAVE US.

In last month's Counterpoise, I told you of my appointment to an assistant section manager; I want to tell you what my new duties will be. I am going to be in the operations part of ARES, and though I am not sure of all my new duties, I do know it will mean planning for drills, public service events, and other duties as well. This means we need someone to take over the job of District Emergency Coordinator for the Eastern District. I hope someone from our club will take over this vital job; and unlike when I took on the job, I will be more than glad to help you learn the job. On August 19th (the same day as our summer picnic) ARES will be conducting its annual Simulated Emergency Test, or SET, which will last for no more than two hours. Other than that, I cannot tell you anything more about the SET. That is it for this month, but as always. Please remember all of our men and women in our military and the sacrifices they and their families make each and every day.

Rich, N6NKJ

## Welcome New Members



New Members and the radios they WON!



Kristine Eyer, KG6IZW

### New Members

Kristine Eyer, KG6IZW WAMO #1675  
Floyd Lang, KI6DUU WAMO # 1698  
Nicholas Lang, KI6DZG WAMO # 1699  
Alex, Samantha, Beth, Zachary, Gabriel Lang

### Welcome Back

Dan Heck, KC6EKU

Thank you to all members who have renewed. Please check the mailing label on your Counterpoise. If your membership has expired, please take a moment to complete and return the Renewal Application located within this Counterpoise.

73 Ann, KC6TBG



## The Hunt

We all met at Montgomery Airport on a lightly sprinkling day in July after a heat wave hit all of San Diego County. All the Hunters were checking their gear and were installing 2 meter Yagi's or Quads on their vehicles. Some even have a special hole in the roof to place the antenna pole through. They dialed in the t-hunt frequency 146.565 MHz and waited for the transmitter to start. Some Hunters went back and started up their laptops for the navigation part of the hunt. Some went over a check list in their head to make sure that everything was ready for the hunt.

At 10 AM, the transmitter was turned on. We got a phone call to make sure that we could hear the "Main T". All of a sudden, like some magic button was pushed, all the antennas started to move around. All the Hunters were trying to get a bearing on the signal. One by one, the Hunters pulled out of the Airport parking lot. Some vehicles took off to the West and some took off to the East. This was a mileage and time hunt. Whoever got there first, with the fewest miles, would win and get to hide the "T" next time. So there was a lot of strategic planning on how to get to the same place with the fewest miles.

I rode with a team and sat in the back to see how things worked. We stopped on a hill and took the second bearing. The navigator, Tony WA6ZMZ, placed the data into the computer's mapping program. The program now had two bearing lines drawn on it. Tony and the driver, Mike KI6ACI, talked over where they thought the "T" was hiding. So we started to drive East on 52 towards Lakeside. The "T" came up about every minute; we would pull off the road to check our bearings to make sure we were on the right path. We came to a fork in the road so we stopped to check. We now heard three separate "T's", two were coming from the El Monte Park area and the other was coming from Blossom Valley. We knew the two were in the valley so we decided to go for the one that was the farthest away and come back to the other two later. We followed the signal to Blossom Valley. Then after some time, we found "T-5"; it was found behind a guard rail. One down, four more to find.

Tony said, "I think the T-2 is a beam, because it is acting like a beam." We parked and tried to get a good bearing on it. After a few minutes, we had it plotted in the computer and we were on the way up to Crest. On the way to Crest, we caught up with one of the other teams and chatted for a few minutes and then we pressed on up to Crest. We got up to the top of the hill, took some more bearings, and moved closer and closer to "T-2". Tony said, "I think it is coming from over there." He pointed to a water tank. No sooner had Tony said that than Mike said, "There it is". "T-2" was found. Yep, it was a beam on a fence post. Now we have three more to go. We drove back down the hill to El Monte Park area

## The Hunt Picnic Information

where "T-1" and "T-3" were. After a few minutes we found "T-3", it was in a post by the road. We took a bearing to find "T-1", and we got it; it was due south of us. We passed it up on the way coming in. We were going too fast to stop and we had cars behind us. We drove right to it, and "T-1" was found. It was the hider's truck, the one we passed up. Tony and Mike talked to the hider and found out that "T-4" was ID'ing the same or very close to "T-2". We went off looking for "T-4 aka T-2". After some time, we stopped searching as it was near the end of the hunt, and it was also time to eat.

We all met up at The 1954 Pizza Co. on East Main in El Cajon to talk over the fun we had with the T-hunt. Yes, the food was terrific. All the Hunters ordered their food. I had the hamburger and fries; the others had the pizza, and it looked good too. As they all waited for the food to be served, the stories about the T-hunt started. I heard all the different ways the other teams went about finding the hidden transmitters. I came to the conclusion that there is no "one way" to go about finding the hidden transmitters. It's all about the FUN and getting together with people with a common interest. If this sounds like fun, it really is and you too can join in on it. Please go to the T-Hunters web site at, [www.sdthunters.com](http://www.sdthunters.com) You can also watch some past T-Hunts at, [www.sdthunters.com/Video/VideoDirectory.html](http://www.sdthunters.com/Video/VideoDirectory.html) . If you would like to learn more about T-Hunting, come and join us at our ARCEC Annual Picnic on August 19, 2006 at La Mesita Park located at 8881 Dallas Street, La Mesa. We will have a demonstration and a T-Hunt. I hope you will come and join in on the fun.

Paul KC6QLS

### Annual ARCEC Picnic

La Mesita Park, 8 AM, 8881 Dallas Street, La Mesa.

Chili cook off winner will receive \$10.00 HRO Gift Certificate. Participation Drawing will receive \$10.00 HRO Gift Certificate. T-Hunt winner will receive \$10.00 HRO Gift Certificate.

Bake Sale to help raise money for the club. Bake some goodies and donate them to the club. We hope to see you there. We will have a lot of FUN.



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022



Issue Date 8/2006

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### Is your membership ready to expire?

Take a look on your mailing label. Is the expiration date in 2006? Does it say EXPIRED? That means it's time to mail in your yearly dues. Please take time to fill out the membership application in this newsletter, and mail it in, or bring it to the next meeting.



Amateur Radio ... A National Resource